

# NEWS RELEASE

*OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS*

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*For Immediate Release*

*FEBRUARY 25, 2004*

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on February 24, 2004, **DOUGLAS BURGESS**, age 42, of 608 Ash Street, Edgewood, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in Benton, Illinois for Count 1, Conspiracy to Manufacture 50 Grams or More of Methamphetamine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1) and 846; Count 2, Maintaining a Place for the Purpose of Manufacturing Methamphetamine, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 856(a)(1); and Count 3, Possession of Methamphetamine Precursors, in violation of Title 21, United States Code, Section 843(a)(6). **BURGESS** was sentenced to 100 months' imprisonment on each count, to run concurrently as well as 4 years' supervised release on Count 1 and 3 years' supervised release on Counts 2 and 3, also to run concurrently. In addition, **BURGESS** was ordered to pay \$5149.50 in restitution to the Drug Enforcement Administration and a \$300 special assessment. The violations took place between January 13, 2003, and June 13, 2003, Effingham County, Illinois.

On June 13, 2002, agents of the Effingham County Sheriff's Department obtained a search warrant for **BURGESS**' residence based on information received from a confidential information. The search revealed materials to make methamphetamine, as well as drugs and drug paraphernalia. **BURGESS** gave a voluntary statement to officers on June 20, 2003. In his statement, **BURGESS** admitted that he and others used his residence to manufacture methamphetamine. He also admitted buying precursors for others to manufacture methamphetamine.

The investigation was conducted by the Effingham County Sheriff's Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration, in cooperation with the Effingham County States Attorney's Office, as part of those agencies' participation in Project Safe Neighborhoods, a nation-wide initiative intended to combat gun and drug crimes. The case was handled by Assistant United States Attorney Angela Scott.